

MULTIPURPOSE WEB-ENABLED BROWSER

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A hypertext browser for retrieving data from a selected one of a plurality of databases. One of the
databases may comprise an Interface Repository, while others may store Naming contexts or Java
classes. Each of a plurality of browser components is operable to retrieve data from a
corresponding one of the databases. Upon receiving a hypertext request from a requester
10 specifying data contained in one of the databases, a main browser servlet residing on a server
machine directs the request to the browser component corresponding to that database to permit
the browser component to retrieve the data specified in the request. The request may specify one
of the browser components, in which case the main servlet directs the request to the browser
component specified in the request. The main servlet generates common header and footer
15 portions of a hypertext reply to the requester, while the browser component generates a
browser-specific portion of the hypertext reply to the requester. Each browser component has a
translator component associated therewith that intermediates between the browser component and
the database and generates a request-specific portion of the browser-specific portion of the
hypertext reply. The browser component itself generates a non-request-specific portion of the
20 browser-specific portion of the hypertext reply to the requester.